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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/599,066	09/19/2006	Ludwig Brehm	1093-162 PCT/US	3721
23869	7590	03/23/2009		
HOFFMANN & BARON, LLP 6900 JERICHO TURNPIKE SYOSSET, NY 11791			EXAMINER GRABOWSKI, KYLE ROBERT	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3725	
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/599,066	Applicant(s) BREHM ET AL.
	Examiner Kyle Grabowski	Art Unit 3725

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 December 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>12/29/08</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This is a Second Non-Final Action in response to the amended claims filed on 12/29/08.

Specification

2. Amendments to the specification obviate the previous objection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. The amended claims have more distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention and the 35 USC § 112 rejection is withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claims 1-2, 4-5, 7, and 14-16, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Moreau (EP 1,398,174).

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6. In respect to claims 1, 4, 7, and 14-16, Moreau discloses a banknote comprising: a paper support 1; a film element 11 having optical security features 15; and a transparent sealing layer 14; the support 1 has window-shaped openings 2 which are closed by the film element 11 which projects beyond it on all sides; the sealing layer 14 covers the film element at least in the region of window-shaped openings 2 and is on the opposite side of paper support 1 to film element 11 (0027, Fig. 4). Moreau does not disclose providing the lacquer layer (broadly synonymous with sealing layer) via a printing, pouring, sprinkling, or spraying method however, although a product-by-process claims are limited by and defined by the process, determination of patentability is based on the product itself. The patentability of a product does not depend on its method of production. If the product in the product-by-process claim is the same as or obvious from a product of the prior art, the claim is unpatentable even though the prior product was made by a different process.” In re Thorpe, 777 F.2d 695, 698, 227 USPQ 964, 966 (Fed. Cir. 1985).

7. In respect to claim 2, Moreau discloses that the second strip 10 (sealing layer) may be same size as the strip 3 (0023, Fig. 1). Note that the embodiment above in claim 1 incorporates elements of this embodiment (0027).

8. In respect to claim 5, Moreau discloses that optical security feature comprising printing (0015).

9. In respect to claims 14-16, Moreau discloses the claimed subject matter for the reasons stated above.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

10. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

11. The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

12. Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Moreau (EP 1,398,174). Moreau substantially discloses the claimed subject matter for the reasons stated above including that the sealing layer may be larger than the film element (0023) but does not disclose the particular range of 100% to 120% larger. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide a relatively larger sealing layer of 100% to 120%, since it has been held that where the general conditions of a claim are disclosed in the prior art, discovering the optimum or workable ranges involves only routine skill in the art. *In re Aller*, 105 USPQ 233.p. Furthermore, Figure 1 shows the sealing layer 10 only

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marginally larger than film element 3, so apparently just over 100% (i.e. not exceeding 120%).

13. Claims 6 and 8-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Moreau (EP 1,398,174) in view of Cote et al. (US 2005/0040641).

14. In respect to claim 6, Moreau substantially disclose the claimed subject matter for the reasons stated above but does not disclose the material or thickness of the material comprising the sealing layer however Cote et al. teaches providing a protective layer lacquer layer comprising, for example, polyethylene terephthalate (PET) (0044) which may be applied as a coating of preferably 4 to about 8 microns (0043). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the lacquer layer taught in Moreau as a 4 to 8 micron thick PET coating as taught in Cote et al. to provide a material and thickness that effectively acts as a barrier to chemical penetration (0043, Cote et al.)

15. In respect to claims 8-13, Moreau discloses that the film element may comprise PET (0022). Moreau as modified by Cote et al. teach a PET lacquer layer. Because Moreau as modified by Cote et al. teach the film element and sealing/lacquer lacquer as PET, they share the same material properties such as expansion coefficient, length expansion coefficient, modulus of elasticity, etc. are the same.

Response to Arguments

16. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-16 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

17. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kyle Grabowski whose telephone number is (571)270-3518. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday, every other Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dana Ross can be reached on (571)272-4480. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Kyle Grabowski/
Examiner, Art Unit 3725

/Dana Ross/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art
Unit 3725